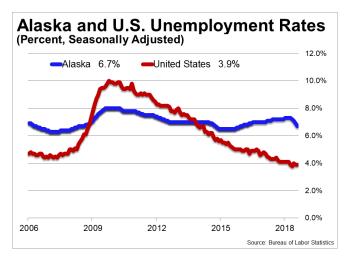
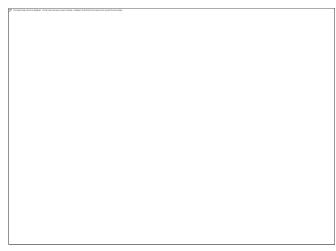


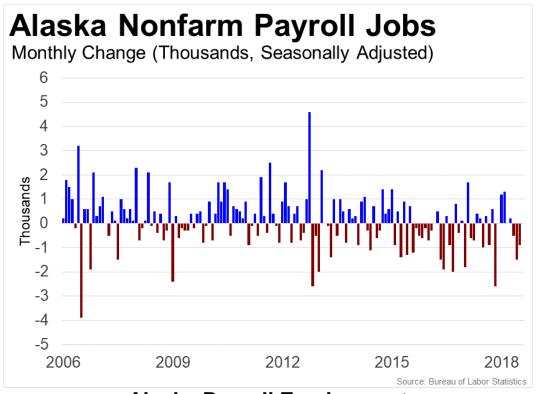
**September 21, 2018** 

## **Summary**

- Alaska had zero job gains or losses and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 6.7 percent in August according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- Over the past twelve months, Alaska lost 3,100 jobs and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 7.2 percent.
- In August, Alaska's private sector lost 200 jobs and over the past twelve months it declined by 2,500 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Alaskans fell by 815 in August**, and over the past year 2,312 Alaskans lost jobs.
- Alaska's **labor force participation rate decreased to 65.6 percent** from 65.9 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.8 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate was unchanged at 3.9 percent in August. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 19, 2018. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 5, 2018.







Alaska Payroll Employment

Alaska was unchanged. on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Alaska lost 900 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Alaska declined by 3,100, or 0.94 percent. Alaska nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 4 of the past 12 months.

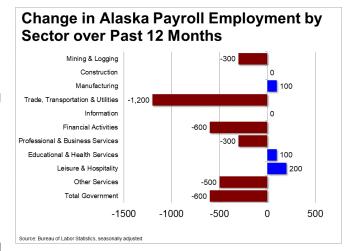
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 201,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,330,000 jobs, or 1.59 percent. Alaska ranks 22nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During August, Alaska's private-sector lost 200 jobs, or 0.08 percent. The private-sector in Alaska lost 700 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Alaska declined by 2,500, or 1.01 percent. Alaska private-sector payroll employment has increased in 6 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 204,000 jobs in August, or 0.16 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,329,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.87 percent. Alaska ranks 25th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Total Government (+200), Educational & Health Services (+100), and Leisure & Hospitality (+100). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-200) and Professional & Business Services (-100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+200) and Educational & Health Services (+100). The poorest performing sectors during



the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-1,200) and Total Government (-600).

## Alaska Labor Force Statistics

## Labor Force Participation

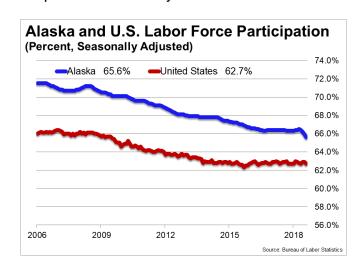
The labor force participation rate in Alaska declined to 65.6 percent in August from 65.9 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 14 have a higher labor force participation rate than Alaska. The labor force participation rate in Alaska is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Alaska was 70.9 percent in September 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Alaska occurred in December 1989 when the labor force participation rate hit 74.5 percent. The 10-year low for the labor

force participation rate was 65.6 percent in August 2018. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in Alaska. The national labor force participation rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 62.7 percent in August 2018, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

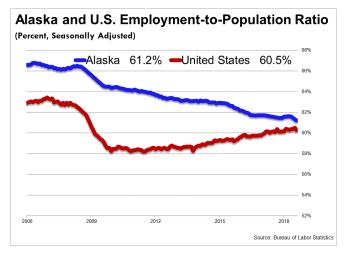
## Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Alaska civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and



older counted as employed, declined to 61.2 percent in August from 61.3 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 25 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Alaska. The employment-to-population ratio in Alaska is 0.3 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Alaska was 66.2 percent in September 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Alaska occurred in March 1998 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 69.5 percent. The 10-



year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 61.2 percent in August 2018. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in September 2018 when the employment-to-population ratio was 61.2 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.2 percentage point to 60.3 percent in August. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.